WENDELL POST

Vol. VIII No. 6 April - May 1986 25¢

Objection to Lights Proposed for Center

To the Wendell Post:

A proposal to install sodium-vapor in four locations near the town center was passed by the last town meeting. Then a combination of townspeople from outside the Center and some who live near the proposed lighting, presented a petition to the selectmen to reconsider the article at the next town meeting.

The locations of the new lighting are: the Town Garage, replacing the existing streetlight; the Library and intersection; the Pre-School; the Fire Station and Town Hall, replacing the existing light. The proposed sodium-vapor lights are 8-9 times brighter than the existing lights and would cost the town double the electricity cost. Sodium-vapor lighting is very orange-a similar light is installed at Maple Valley; check it out if you want a sense of how this kind of light would affect the town center.

The problems people have with the lighting are that the particular lighting, ~~sodium~~ vapor, is harsh and very bright, and that several locations are not clearly in need of continuous and exceptionally bright lighting.

Alternatives to the lighting include less bright sodium-vapor bulbs (ones which are three times as bright as the existing luminescent bulbs are available) mercury-vapor bulbs (whose blue-white light is less offensive to some of those concerned about the sodium-vapor) and in some locations, small incandescent or fluorescent fixtures (incandescent streetlighting is no longer provided by Mass. Electric, but where streetlight-scaled lighting is unnecessary Wendell could install its own fixtures).

cont' p. 6

Board Denies South Bank Warrant Item Request

The board of selectmen has refused to put an item about the Arch Street Bridge section of town before the voters, despite a petition and a meeting with two of its organizers.

The petition, signed by 35 voters and submitted to the selectboard March 25, asked the board to "defer any further action on the Arch Street Bridge construction... until a fresh assessment is made of the cost effectiveness of this project to the Town, and nec essary decisions concerning discontinuance of roads and the future of the area served by the bridge have been made."

The chief question is whether the area, including six private properties, should continue in private hands or be bought by the state. Some would also like to see hard facts provided about the cost of abandoning the bridge project, and hear whether the possible future landlord--the state--wants the bridge.

The petition requested a special town meeting be scheduled "to address these matters, and that the recommendations of the Planning Board and Finance Committee be heard."

The petition was prompted by the discovery that the estimated cost of the bridge had doubled, and by the selectboard's attempts to discontinue maintenance on roads the bridge was to serve. The area takes considerably more in town services than it pays for in taxes, due to its location and built-in road maintenance difficulties. The selectboard, in putting before the voters the question of discontinuing main-

cont' p. 5

Legal Action Considered on Chopper Searches

A group of Wendell residents met with Attorney Stuart Eisenberg recently to consider a legal challenge of the practice of random aerial searches by police. Wendell is just one of the area towns that have experienced aerial searches for marijuana in August and September of recent years.

Last September 8, police flew low, repeated passes over several fields in town, in some cases reportedly dipping below treetop level, and stirring up the wrath of some residents who felt their privacy invaded. The police had no warrants for the searches, but rather used them as a means to obtain warrants for the arrest of at least one Wendell resident.

The method's success in finding marijuana is often used as a justification for using a method that would be illegal if it were on the ground.

Eisenberg, who expressed a great interest in the case, said the challenge will be based on constitutional protections in the U.S. and Massachusetts constitutions. Other people concerned about this seeming abuse of police power and its potential for further excess are invited to participate, either as plaintiffs or in a support capacity.

A successful meeting was held in the Town Hall on April 16. Fundraising Committee, Organizing Secretary and Plaintiff "searchers" as well as several plaintiffs volunteered. The meeting was well attended by the media and excellent coverage was heard on NPR Amherst and seen in The Morning Union, the Boston Globe and the Greenfield Recorder.

There will be a meeting of people interested in becoming plaintiffs with the lawyers on Wednesday, May 7, at 7:30pm at the Community Church, Wendell Center. All supporters and those interested in submitting testimony are urged to come.

Phone Contact: Ina Phelps 544-2735

Testimony Submissions: Susan DunLany
SR - 555
Wendell, MA 01379

Wendell Town Meeting

ELECTION DAY Monday, May 5, 1986 10-8

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, Thursday, May 8, 6:30
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, Thursday, May 8, 7 pm

PRE-TOWN MEETING, Thursday, May 1, 7pm

PUBLIC HEARING - status on Arch St. Bridge
Tuesday, May 20, 8 pm
Wendell Town Hall

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WENDELL POST

Vol. VIII No. 6

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Take a Dad to Dinner

On Saturday, June 14th at the Wendell Town Hall at 6pm, the Wendell Ladies Aid will sponsor its 2nd annual "Take a Dad to Dinner". The dinner will include a delicious Baked Ham with homemade rolls, mashed potatoes, carrots alla Virginia Wheeler, beans almandine, salad, and assorted homemade pies. It was a great meal last year, so it promises to be another savory treat this year! Please buy your tickets from any Ladies Aid Member in advance because seats are limited. Adults are $5.00 and children cost $3.00.

In addition to the meal, there will be a table filled with homemade crafts to buy.

An award will go to the Oldest Dad and Youngest Dad present. And word has it that there will be a roving photographer present with a polaroid camera who will take a snapshot of your favorite Dad in order to remember this event through the years. Be sure to come!

This is our annual event to raise funds for the children's holloween and christmas parties.

CHRISTOPHER SIKES
PIANO TECHNICIAN

TUNING REPAIR ESTIMATES

CAMBRIDGE, MASS. 544-3914

Post Info: June/July Issue
Next Meeting - May 11th 10 a.m.
Deadline May 26th 5 p.m.
Layout June 1st
Please get submissions to Wendell Country Store by deadline.

The Post is a completely volunteer paper. If we are to continue serving Wendell and New Salem, we must have more typists and helpers for "paste-up' day. Please call 544-7425 to offer one day every other month.

Our apologies to several writers whose articles missed deadline and were beyond the typists' endurance. If timely, they will appear next issue.

Births

Congratulations to:

Lola and Lenny Bedaw of Locks Village Rd. on the birth of their daughter, Danielle Lee Bedaw, 6 lb. 7 oz., born in Franklin Medical Center on Feb. 9.

Jean Forward and Thomas Mangan of Main Street on the birth of their daughter, Susan Amelia Mangan, 9 lb. 4 oz. She was born at home on Feb. 26.

Bette and David Richard of Jennison Rd. on the birth of their daughter, Kathryn Lisabet Flumere Richard, 7 lb. 15 3/4 oz., born in Franklin Medical Center on March 22.

Land Transactions

Cersosimo Lumber Co. to Donald Ellis, 106.82 acres near Mormon Hollow.

Walter C. Jones to Nancy M. Thompson, 2.42 acres, Bullard Pasture Rd.

Fred R. Renfrew to Brian S. Kowalski, 1.98 acres, Jennison Rd.

June & Ralph Lewis to Thomas H. Manley, 15.558 acres & dwelling, Locks Hill Rd.

Celebration

Fifth Annual Peace Pentecost Celebration sponsored by the Wendell Church

5:00 Pot Luck Supper
6:00 Film & Guest Speaker
7:30 Vesper Service with Special Music

Youth of today love the "freeze" (bomb).... "awesome to think of my future"

Nat Cramer
New Salem

School District to Ask for Legal Extension

As a result of Town Meeting votes in November by New Salem and Wendell, a Joint Swift River School Building Committee was created and funds were appropriated to permit the Building Committee to hire an architect to prepare preliminary designs.

Building Committee members have been appointed. They are as follows:

Wendell	New Salem
Emma Cappelluzzo	Lynda Graves
Joe Diemand	Phillip Harris
Gladys Powling	Nat Needle
Claire Stewart	Hendra Reidy
Jim Woodward	Courtland Whittier

Lynda Graves and Joe Diemand are also members of the New Salem/Wendell School Committee. Claire Stewart had been a member of the original Building Committee as was Al Diemand, who has been appointed as an alternate member of the Committee. Gladys Powling was elected by the members to serve as Chairperson of the Committee.

The Joint Building Committee has met several times. Before proceeding to hire an architect, it was important for all of the Committee members to get a sense of direction.

In addition, the selection process was an arduous one. Final candidates had been interviewed three times by the Joint Building committee and once by me before a selection was made. In addition, Committee members visited sites where work was completed under the architects' direction and received references from towns and school districts where they had worked.

The Committee has voted to select, as architect, the Design Partnership of Cambridge. Committee members were impressed by their work in remodeling the West Newbury Elementary School, the Northbridge High School, and the Wilmington High School--all in Massachusetts. The architects from that firm have made clear their willingness to work with the community as well as the Building Committee, to have public hearings to allow people to make comments and recommendations, and to both listen and to give advice.

Because the process has been such a long one, we cannot expect to ask the towns to vote on a proposal before the end of this fiscal year. And, therefore, we will have to ask the Legislature to extend our designation as having an extreme critical need for construction into FY '87. Letters thanking Senator Wetmore for his help in extending the designation into this fiscal year and asking him for help in obtaining another extension would be useful. That designation allows us to receive an additional 5% reimbursement for our construction costs, other than interest.

While we do not expect to be able to ask people to vote on matters relating to the building at the Annual Town Meeting, we do expect to have some alternatives which the Building Committee and the architect will have been looking at by that time. Townspeople will have an opportunity to make comments and give advice informally at the town meetings and more formally at a public hearing shortly thereafter.

If you have questions regarding the school, do not hestite to contact me, Leonard Strauss, or members of the Building Committee.

Leonard Lubinsky,
Supt. of Schools

The Land Beyond The Bridge

An Editorial

You get to it by driving under the Arch St. railroad underpass in Erving Center, two miles from Wendell Depot. You drive through the Erving Paper Co. headquarters parking lot. It's not more than 200 yds. from Route 2.

The two-span Arch St. bridge serves six Wendell properties. None have other access. The "peninsula" of private land is abutted by Wendell State Forest on the east and south, the Millers River on the north, and hemmed by a bridge washout over a stream on the west.

The only year-round house, now vacant, is owned by people from the Boston area. One camp is owned by the Erving fire chief and another by a woman from Florida. A field belongs to a couple in California, and two wooded pieces belong to an Erving and a Connecticut person, respectively.

The bridge was closed approximately five years ago, during which time vehicle access has been cut off. During that time, the year-round house, which stands at the top of a steep bluff just across the bridge, changed hands. The new owner has indicated his willingness to sell to the Department of Environmental Management. The owners of the camps have also indicated a willingness to sell.

The 140 acres and several buildings are valued at a total of $99,720. They produce just under $1,600 per year for the town in taxes. At the present rate, with no further outlays, the cost of the bridge would theoretically be returned to public coffers in 169 years.

The state, however, is paying all but $40,000 of the estimated $230,000 cost. From the parochial, town-oriented viewpoint, the state portion is free money, and doesn't have to stand cost-benefit analysis.

Even if true, this doesn't make the bridge a bargain. The state forced the selectboard to drop plans to request the voters' approval for discontinuing maintenance on the roads that meet at the bridge. Considerable repair is needed on the mile of Old Farley Road traditionally maintained to one of the summer camps. Plowing will be required to the year-round house in winter...a nightmare of a job, according to several town equipment operators. (Merle Powling remembers a time when a town truck began slipping and an employee riding in the passenger seat bailed out of the truck, over the bank and "practically into the river," he said.)

No estimate has yet been made of the cost of road work, according to Jay Blackbird, town highway commissioner. It might be substantial.

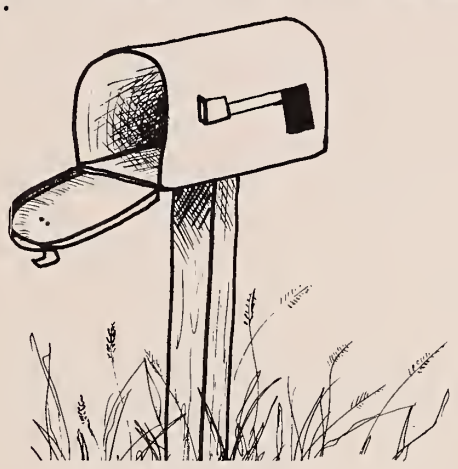
Even greater costs are possible for education. Children from the year-round house in the past have been enrolled in Erving schools, for which Wendell paid tuition. At other times, they have been bussed. It is necessary to drive more than two miles through Erving to reach the bridge, whether with school busses or road equipment.

The board of selectmen indicated by its attempt to discontinue maintenance of the roads that it favors discouraging development of Wendell's remotest section. Selectmen individually have spoken favorably about state purchase of the properties. They have drawn the line at allowing the townspeople to vote their preference for the area. Why?

It isn't that such a vote would jeopardize the outcome, as one selectman claimed. In fact, the opposite is true: failure to act decisively to put state machinery into motion to purchase the land might jeopardize it more.

No, the selectboard is out of line in attempting to keep it off the warrant.

One final note: the issue includes the question of eminent domain. This is a sensitive matter, one that should not be engaged in lightly. If it's ever appropriate, however, it's appropriate here: the owners not only don't live on the property in question, they have been cut off from it for five years, in most cases without complaint. Only one has asked for a tax rebate. The owner who has most hounded the town for access wouldn't be a candidate for eminent domain--he has already indicated a willingness to sell to the DEM. Here it can safely be said the public interest in taking this area off the private rolls outweighs the private rights of ownership. Fortunately, however, there is no reason to think the power of condemnation would even be needed.



Letters

A Plea for Slower Springtime Driving

To the Wendell Post:

It sure is great that spring has sprung! And this means we're all outside as much as possible, releasing the tensions of cabin fever. Children are riding bicycles on the side of the road and running and walking--hopefully--all on the side of the road. So, here comes my plea: Please slow down!

To tell you the truth, I was almost sad to see those potholes get filled in and smoothed out. At least all the traffic to and from New Salem Rd. went slowly by our driveway on Plain Rd. Now they're really cruising by again. Our sons, ages 4 and nearly 2, know they aren't supposed to wander down to the road, but sometimes when I'm up in the garden or bringing the groceries in their tricycles or balls or little feet bring them dangerously close to the edge of the road. I've always caught them, but maybe someday it will take a cautious driver to avoid hitting our precious angels. So - please - slow down. And maybe someday when you're driving by the playground you'll see someone you know there, --if you're going the speed limit, that is. I sure am going to try, because sometimes I, too, am in a big hurry.

Thanks, sincerely,
Mez Davis
Plain Road

To the Wendell Post:

Townspeople should know that there are 3 major town building projects in various stages of serious consideration. We will have to decide on the priorities of the 3 projects - all are expensive and would have significant tax rate increases associated with them.

Most of us have heard about the Swift River expansion project. Cost estimates range up to 1 million dollars, much of which would be state funded. The project currently aims to handle 250 pupils. This number has been relatively arbitrarily arrived at. Current student enrollment is 165; it has fluctuated from 154 (1981-2) to 182 (1978-9); the average enrollment has been 166 over its 10 years of existence. The principal would prefer not to have more than 140-150 students in the building as it exists ; the superintendent would keep the student body below 160, and believes that beyond 175 the school is in 'deep trouble.'

A slow increase in school population seems likely. How slow, or fast, and what level it will reach in the next 10-20 years are considerably less understood. Previous predictions pointed to a 1987 enrollment of 180 (Supt. Lubinsky) to 209 (State Dept. of Education, with yearly enrollments fluctuating from 180 to 231). Principal Len Strauss, looking at a very large existing 6th grade class, expects a slight decrease in population for 1986-1987 - perhaps 163. Clearly, predictions are a risky business.

It is not just the total enrollment that is cause for concern. How does one deal with a class size of 29 students? Too large for 1 class, too small for two, this year's 6th grade of 29 students was merged with a smaller 5th grade class and divided up. If small increases in population produce several classes in the 28-35 range, alternatives will have to be found. This problem must be dealt with before plans for an addition are sensible. Some solution to overcrowding must be found, however.

Another project is a replacement building for the Town Garage & Fire Station. The project, estimated at $210,000 total cost, is already out for bids (one has come in already). Land behind the current garage is targetted for the building.

Divided in 2 halves (Fire Station & Garage with a utility core separating the 2), the building is designed to be 48' deep and 132' long, steel covered (unless the town gets an equally inexpensive bid for wood sheathed construction), and will have 3 bays each for Fire Station and Garage. Some State monies are being eyed for the project - they are monies that may be used for many town purposes, so that the project will essentially be wholly town funded. Current estimates expect the tax rate increase due to the building to be $1.25 - $1.75/$1000 for the 20 year life of an FHA loan.

The existing garage has needed replacement for some time. The existing Fire Station is still usuable but extremely cramped; in addition, plans for a new tanker would require additional space.

*See "Alternatives" P. 7, col. 3

The third project is Town Hall expansion The purpose of this expansion would be to provide central town offices for some critical town functions - Tax Collector, Treasurer, Accountant, in addition to the present Selectperson's office and Board of Health / general meeting room. Greater coordination of the fiscal affairs of the town and greater access by clerks and assistants to speed up the processing of monies are some of the goals. Careful consideration should be given to the whole structure of the town's financial operations here - possible solutions include a general financial assistant to process monies faster, or a combination of several duties into a regular part-time position. A large office complex does not seem necessary at this time, but some increase in space is clearly needed.

Harlan Gilbert

New Salem Town Elections

May 5, 1986
Polls open 11:45 A.M. - 8 P.M.

Selectman	3 yrs.	Edward A. Billings	West St.
Town Clerk	1 yr.	Helen A. Wetherby	Lovers Lane
Tax Collector	1 yr.	Helen A. Wetherby	Lovers Lane
Planning Board	3 yrs.	Madilyn Engvall	Cooleyville Rd.
Planning Board	5 yrs.	Carolyn A. Wilbur	Wendell Rd.
School Committee	3 yrs.	Sally M. Marz	Neilson Rd.
School Committee	3 yrs.	Lynda M. Graves	Wendell Rd.
Assessor	3 yrs.	Joseph A. Starkey	West St.
Treasurer	1 yr.	Arlene J.D. Hunt	Daniel Shays Hwy.
Auditor	1 yr.	Ward M. Hunting	Orange Rd.
Moderator	1 yr.	Robert W. Henderson	So. Main St.
Board of Health	3 yrs.	Joshua Winder	West St.
(Contest) For			
Constable	3 yrs.	Mark S. Kimmel	Wendell Rd.
		George F. Spaulding Jr.	Elm St.
Library Trustee	3 yrs.	Frederick von Mering	Shutesbury Rd.
School Committee	1 yr.	Carol, Marden-Whittier	Neilson Rd.

Annual Town Meeting May 12, 1986

New Salem Is Working To Restore It's Common

Starting in October 1984 a Town Common Committee of ten residents and other volunteers prepared preliminary and final proposals to get a grant from the state Department of Environmental Management for rehabilitaion of the Town Common. In May 1985, New Salem was one of the 22 communities in the state out of 140 applicants to win such a grant.

The proposal is to remove South Main Street from the center of the common and relocate it on the east side of the common, place the telephone and power lines underground, regrade the common with good topsoil, plant new grass and trees and provide seating and lighting. The purpose is to make it more beautiful and historic looking, to make it easier to maintain, and to stimulate appropriate economic development nearby.

The grant will pay 100% of the cost of construction which is about $99,000 and 50% of all other associated costs or $15,400. The Town had to contribute a matching share of associated costs. The Town's share consisted of $7,900 worth of in-kind services donated by volunteers leaving $7,500 cash which the town voted to pay.

At one time or another the following persons have been members of the Town Common Committee: Deke Billings, Carolyn Chouinard, Jeanne Clayton, Hank Cramer, Al Dunbar, Ralph Hunt, Ward Hunting, Jack Jewett, Judy Jewett, Steven Schoenberg, Bruce Spencer, Marion von Mering and Susan Wright.

The first sign of construction on the common appeared near the end of March when eight trees were removed from where the new road will be located. All but three of these trees were dead or dying. Major construction of the project is expected to start in June and be completed by mid September 1986. The New Salem HIghway Department will do the major construction work.

It has always been assumed that the Town Common and several surrounding properties belong to the Town. In 1855 a fire destroyed most of the Town records that may have shown that ownership. There is no controversy about this, but to clear the record articles will be presented at a Special Town Meeting scheduled for April 22 to establish new records showing that the town owns these properties.

The Town Common has changed many times. While George Washington was President of our new country, the concept of separation of church and state led to the removal of the Meetinghouse which stood in the center of the common. During the colonial period it had served as the combined Church and Town Hall. To serve these functions separately the First Parish Church was built on the west side of the common in 1794 and the Meetinghouse was moved to the east side of the common to become the first Town Hall. That was a literal separation of church and state.

Legend has it that one day someone decided that without the old Meetinghouse in the way, his horse and buggy could travel better on the grass through the center of the common than on the deeply rutted muddy roads around the outside. Others followed his tracks and since then South Main Street has been through the center of the common.

The common has served as campus for the New Salem Academy since it was started in 1795 when there were no public high schools. It developed along the east side of the common and has always been an important part of the town. It is now an interesting private alternative high school.

The proposal to rehabilitate the Town Common has received mixed reactions. It was presented to the public in several news articles, public hearings and town meetings. About two thirds of the voters were in favor of the project at the annual town meeting in May 1985. Others opposed it for severral reasons. There are other important things that the money could be spent for. Some people just do not want to see any change. There will be a mess during construction, and a few problems could be created by the new road layout.

The committee looks forward to the time when the common is completed with a large expanse of smooth green grass, trees in brilliant fall foliage, colonial lanterns and no utility lines to interrupt the view. We hope that everyone will be pleased with it.

Henry Cramer, Chairman
Town Common Committee

Meeting House Comes Alive

Plans are underway for therestoration, preservation, and renewed community use of the 1794 Meetinghouse on the common in New Salem. This historic old building has been known by many names, such as: The First Congregational Church, The Unitarian Church, and the Old Church.

The 1794 Meetinghouse is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It was completed on December 1, 1794, and was widely regarded as one of the finest examples of church architecture in the western part of the state. The Old Meetinghouse is a prominent landmark and the delight of visitors who come to photograph the fine old building in its town common setting with the neighboring public library (New Salem's old Town Hall built in 1838) and Center Congregational Church (built in 1854).

Last summer the 1794 Meetinghouse Preservation Committee was appointed to evaluate the building and the steps necessary to restore the building to its original elegance and to put it to use for community functions. Some of the uses suggested are concerts, lectures, seminars. workshops, summer theatrical productions and weddings. The committee members are Allan Bixby, Bradley Fisher, Althea Gilmore, Jack Jewett, Jane Marshall, Marion von Mering, and Erin Williams. As the committee puts it, "This beautiful old historic building is in need of some tender loving care and use". New homes are being built in New Salem, the town common is to be rebuilt, some beautiful old houses are being renovated, New Salem Academy is operating, and the spirit of the times is to repair, beautify, and use what our ancestors left us. In this spirit, the committee hopes to see this wonderful old building live again for the pleasure, benefit and pride of the town.

A campaign is underway which will involve seeking grants from foundations, fund raising projects and contributions of ideas, time, and especially money, which may be mailed to: 1794 Meetinghouse Fund, CPO Box 118, New Salem, MA 01355.

April 26, 1986 at 7:30 P.M., J.R. Greene, of Athol, well known local historian on the Quabbin Resevoir, will present a 90 minutes narrated slide show titled, "The Creation of the Quabbin Resevoir." Refreshments will be for sale and a $2.50 donation is requested for the benefit of the 1794 Meetinghouse Preservation Fund.

Althea Gilmore

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Sugar Season Sweet,

But Shortest Yet

"The old timers say it's the worst season they've ever seen," said Bill Hamilton of New Salem, owner of Hamilton Orchards, "though some say '38 may have been worse."

Everyone who tapped the maple trees of Wendell and New Salem agree - 1986 was a very bad season with yields 1/2 to 1/3 normal.

The warm week at the end of March cut the season short, "When the buds burst the sap stopped flowing," explained Susan Madrigan of New Salem. A few warm days won't stop the sap's flow, but a whole warm week is too much, according to Bruce Spencer of New Salem, a forester at the Quabbin Reservoir.

Bill Facey of Wendell said he collected sap for only four weeks this season, but usually the sap runs for five or six weeks. During the first three weeks the sap was running much slower than usual, but in the fourth week it ran "real good."

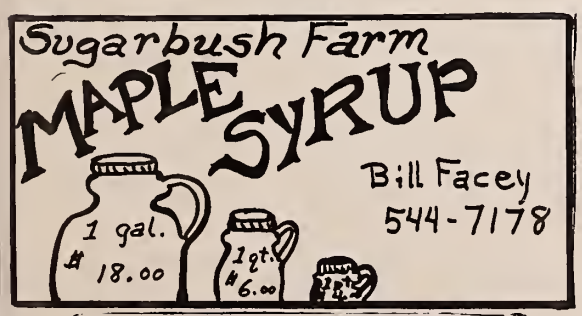
It takes 30 to 40 gallons of sugar maple sap to make a gallon of syrup because the sugar content of sap ranges from 3 to 4%. The higher the sugar content, the less sap is needed per gallon of syrup. 1986 was short, but it was sweet...especially in the red maples. "We tap mostly reds, and we got a gallon of syrup out of only 35 gallons of sap this year...half as much boiling as two years ago," said Jonathan von Ranson of Wendell.

Bruce Spencer has a theory explaining why the sap is sweeter some years than others. He says it is not determined by the weather during the sugaring season, but instead by the weather of the previous June. In this area the trees do most of their growing in June. When June is both sunny and moist the trees store more food.

Because this was a short season, maple syrup is now in short supply. "People know it's a bad year and they're buying fast," said Susan Madrigan who has already sold all her surplus syrup. "The prices are a little higher, too," she added.

Wendell and New Salem residents who made maple syrup this year include: Susan Dunlany and Jonathan von Ranson- 1 3/4 gal. from red maples; the Facey's, Kellers, Peter and Lin Diemand and Anne and Faith Diemand-101 gal. between them; the Spencers- 25 gal.; the Madrigans- 26 gal; Bob Streeter and Amy Carter- 1 ½ gal. from red maples; the Hamiltons, who make it for a living; and Jack Ellis who made "just enough for the family."

Marianne Sandell



Board Denies cont' from front page

tenance of the roads, was trying to limit costly development.

A misunderstanding between Jonathan von Ranson, who brought the petition, and the selectboard is apparently involved. Board chairman Jim Slavas said he thought von Ranson accepted, on behalf of the petitioners, an offer of a public hearing. One was in fact scheduled for May 20.

Von Ranson thought he had accepted an offer of a public hearing sometime before the annual town meeting. "My understanding was that if no agreement was reached at the hearing, it would be on the warrant and could be taken up by the town meeting."

He said the selectboard meeting was "crazy at that point. They were due to meet momentarily with the finance committee, and they were trying to get upstairs to that. It was near pandemonium."

When he heard that the item hadn't been put on the warrant, von Ranson complained. He and Mason Phelps met with the selectboard April 15 at the invitation of Slavas and submitted wording for a warrant item about what von Ranson calls "the basic issue--the future of the property":

"To see if the town of Wendell should encourage the state Department of Environmental Management to acquire the privately owned Wendell properties served by the Arch St. Bridge, support eminent domain proceedings if these are necessary, and open discussions with DEM of transfer of certain rights of way in the vicinity of said bridge, or take any action thereon."

The DEM is interested in the property; district officials have solicited this kind of support from the town, saying it would enable them to expedite the acquisition process.

After discussion, the selectboard expressed reluctance to put the item on the warrant. Even after von Ranson and Phelps offered to delete the clause about eminent domain--a sensitive point always--the selectboard voted against the request. Said Slavas, "I doubt the information could be gotten together in time." In addition, he said he was concerned that the normal planning process hadn't yet been followed on the issue, (though it is now over five years old). Idoine steadfastly maintained that a vote by town meeting "might jeopardize the process, which I feel certain is going to happen anyway."

But von Ranson disagrees. "It's basically a state process," he said. "The state has asked for this action to be taken by the town. I doubt they would have if it was going to jeopardize anything."

Responds Idoine, "The state has not asked the selectboard or town in any formal way; there's been a discussion." He said an "administrative process" would achieve the goal more effectively, and would alarm the landowners less."

Others are upset at the selectboard's action. "It's supposed to be easy to get something on the warrant of the annual town meeting," said Anne Zak. "This might be illegal."

"Time is passing," said von Ranson, "and the bridge is getting closer to a fait accompli. Buyers are lining up for the properties. The time to make this move, if it's going to be made at all, is when the patterns of use of this section have been broken for five years , not after people are resettled."

Jonathan von Ranson

Obituaries

Mary Fortune Was Coach at Mahar

Mary P. Fortune, 30, of Montague Road died March 13 at her home. Dr. Donald Mruk, Medical Examiner, listed the cause of death as pulmonary edema.

Mrs. Fortune was formerly employed in the Physical Education Department as an assistant Field Hockey and Track Coach at Mahar Regional High School. Recently, Mrs. Fortune was an assistant coach of both Field Hockey and Women's Track at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and was on the teaching staff of the Springfield Vermont Vocational Technical School.

She leaves her husband, Timothy P. Fortune; her parents, Ernest and Betty Persechino of Cocoa Beach, Fla.; a brother, Ernest Persechino of East Taunton; and a sister, Nancy Persechino of New York City.

She was born in Mystic Conn. on June 8, 1955.

Agnes Telling

Agnes V. Telling, former resident of West Road, died February 14 in the Swedish Home, West Newton at age 93.

Mrs. Telling lived in Brooklyn, N.Y. for many years before moving to Wendell in 1942 with her husband, Nelson Telling. Mr. Telling died in an accident in 1949. She lived on West Road for 39 years before entering the Swedish Home in West Newton in 1981.

Mrs. Telling was born Agnes Wicktoria Peterson on November 16, 1892 in Vissefjerda Smoland, Sweden, the third of five children. After her mother and father died, she emigrated to the United States in 1909 when she was 17 years old.

She is survived by her brother, Swen Peterson (90), of Stony Brook, N.Y., her sister, Frieda Olsen (96), in the Swedish Home in Staten Island, N.Y., her niece, Martha Rohr, her nephews, Alfred Peterson, Charles Peterson, Donald Peterson and Clifford Olsen.

Cremation was at Milton Crematory, Milton. A service will be held at a future date in Lock Hill Cemetery, Wendell.

The Giving Woods of Wendell

As I often meander through the woods; I feel blest to receive the many gifts which nature so abundantly supplies. A list of a few of these gifts might look like this:

* Birch bark- nature's own confetti falling to the ground to celebrate Spring's arrival.
* The winds- warm music flowing to our hearts.
* The birds and animals- join in a chorus of delight for us.
* The blooming Laurel- Wendell's own wedding dress to honor the union of sun and earth.
* The clouds- the sky's own scriptures of infinite love and joy.
* The sunsets- silent reminders to the beauty we each hold inside ourselves.
* The people- as from one grand heart we work and play for a brighter world.

We rejoice with you, Wendell Woods!

DCG
March 29, 1986

Millers River Water Eyed for Boston Faucets

For those who once hoped that the creation of Quabbin Resevoir was Boston's last bite in the Western Massachusetts apple, along came the Connecticut River diversion plan to raise the guard hairs--a plan borne from the late 1960's drought. The well-known plan would use the Northfield Mountain Pumping Station to pump water from the Connecticut River into pipes that would lead to Quabbin, passing through Wendell.

But a lesser known plan for diverting the Millers and Tully rivers has recently been assessed (with several other alternatives) in a study released by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, a state created but autonomous agency which has inherited the Metropolitan District Commision's (MDC) function of vending water to Boston and 39 other eastern Massachusetts towns.

According to the assessment report, the Millers/Tully diversion would yield 38 million gallons a day (33 million if only the Millers is diverted) of Class B river water into the Class A waters of Quabbin, compared to the 63 million daily gallons from the Connecticut River diversion. Quabbin has a "safe yield" of 300 million daily gallons, and the MDC has released controversial projections claiming a need for 420 million daily gallons by the year 2020.

The Millers/Tully plan calls for construction of two tunnels, one from Tully Lake to the Millers River, and the other from the Millers River near downtown Athol to Quabbin. "Spoil piles" will result from the tunneling, and "terrestrial ecology" will be affected. Referring to the South Athol Road spoil pile and shaft site, the report states: "The project work in this upland and abandoned field area is expected to have adverse impacts on the drainage to adjacent wetlands. Installation of the drop shaft in the riverbed near the north bank and construction of a diversion dam across the river will require temporary re-routing of the river during construction.

"Increased emission of air pollutants during construction can be expected from construction equipment. Also, increase in fugitive dust can be expected during construction. Construction noise can be expected to be high in the vicinity of shafts, intakes and other structures."

Regarding impacts on aquatic ecology, the report predicts "slightly enhanced algae growth in the north part of Quabbin Resevoir and the likely introduction of undesireable species, such as the lamprey eel, into the resevoir." The lampreys, which attack trout and other fish devastated fishing in the Great Lakes after they were introduced by the building of the Welland Canal around Niagara Falls in the nineteenth century.

The report also says ecological and water quality impacts on the rivers will be minimized because certain minimum flow constrains were incorporated into the plan's design, with "low frequency of withdrawals allowed during the biologically critical summer months."

It adds: "The aquatic ecology of the rivers is not expected to change significantly; however, there may be some slight changes due to impingement and entrainment of species at the intake structures.

"There is the likelihood of long-term change in flood-plain plant communities and wildlife habitat due to the May reduction in the extent of flooding. This is considered a localized significant impact."

Total capital costs of 113 million dollars and over five years construction time is estimated.

In a November Valley Advocate article, former State Rep. Bill Benson said diversion is "not a big east-west issue in the Legislature." He called the diversion ideas "purely administrative, an engineer's pipe dream" that is part of an old game plan developed by the MDC.

State Rep. William Mullins of Ludlow also agreed that diversion lacks a strong legislative constituency, and said, "I don't know who keeps stirring this up."

An official from the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs told the Advocate that "Initially, after the 1960's drought, it was the MDC who started the notion of the diversion, What I think has happened is that a number of those people have left the MDC. Times have changed. Those who are in the authority may realize that a diversion may be necessary, but they are not - as far as I can see - even behind the scenes privately talking about needing a diversion in the near future. But I don't think anybody's ruling out the technical feasibility of a diversion. The question is, when?"

In the meantime, with area environmental groups opposing all diversion plans, it remains to be seen if the real question is "if" rather than "when."

Robert Streeter

Lights cont' from front page

At the Library, open at night only once a week, a small light to illuminate the car-park and path on a timer to be on when the Library is open would suffice.

The Pre-School, similarly, is used infrequently at night. Discussions with parents indicate that evening use of the playground by children is likely to be confined to the summer, when the sun is late setting in any case. For occasions of evening use of the school building, a less intense light is probably all that is necessary, and a switch enabling the light to be turned off when not in use is sensible, and would reduce irritation to nearby homeowners.

The Town Hall-Fire Station area seems reasonably lit by the existing streetlight. Special lighting at doors to make entrance faster and easier might solve any problems here.

Both the Fire Station and the Town Garage are in line for a move to a proposed building, which would leave at least the Garage's light without a function. Consideration should be given that interim solutions do not leave a long-term ugly light.

The intersection at the town center does need an improvement in safeness. The main problem seems to be that drivers on Morse Village Rd. do not always stop, and drivers on Locks Village/Depot Rd. often are going excessively fast. It's not clear that a bright streetlight is either a solution or the most effective solution. Consideration should be given to both a streetlight and increased signage, a small yellow warning light on Locks Village at the approach, and increased enforcement (just getting the people of this town to keep to a reasonable speed and to stop at the intersection would go a long way to solving this problem).

When the article returns for consideration, let's look carefully at what type, brightness, and magnitude of lighting we want at all the locations--care now will save later regret.

Harlan Gilbert
Plain Rd.

Stones in the Woods

A road was here one time. Right and left the gray stone walls run straight and true to mark the meeting place of "yours" and "mine". The walls marked boundaries set by law, but law could not require the workmanship and pride of setting half-ton stones togther plumb and true, with room for not a hand between. Any line of piled-up stones would do as well--for some. Not them. This was a stern and lovely, unforgiving land and bred a race of stern and lovely, unforgiving men. They tamed the land--a little--and a little of its wildness entered them. But the world slipped out from under them and later sons did not return from taste of shorter day and lesser task.

And then the old folks died and none were there to notice when the shingle lifted in the storm and down below the trunneled, foot-square beams felt rain and wind and sifting snow until at last all that remained was stone. The trees let sown their seeds ahd each spring's growth awaited steel that never came.

The walls are here, still straight and true and mindful of their trust, two-hundred winters old; softened, some, and settled to the land, resigned to watch and wait. I walked upon the road (or where it once had been) following the old gray wall with now and then a reassuring touch of hand...

The cemetery gate was gone; hand-hammered hinge pins set in stone attesting that it once hung true (it likely was a work of art, spanning as it had the break in wall that fronts two roads, its face exposed to man's level eyes). Here and there the roots of oak and pine have pushed up stone and all around the graves the trees themselves stand thick and tall. The pines are green with life but this bright fall has lain a blanket of brave color on the ground to accentuate the dignity of stone. A marker here and there of marble, but most of early slate and some still older of the simple country stone; these last rough-hewn, the letters wrought with care by father or by son, too scarce of cash to hire it done. The chisel and the hammer often stopped, I know, for granite dust is hard to blow when dampened with those bitter drops, too strong to hold from this

...last touch...

of love.

Norman E. Tandy

Burnett Builders
544-3430
Wendell Ma.

FIREWOOD
LOG TRUCK LOADS
4 FOOT LENGTHS
STOVE LENGTHS

STAR ROUTE 10
WENDELL DEPOT
MASS. 01380

WILDWOOD FARM
FIREWOOD & LOGGING
WENDELL, MASS.
617-544-2773

DAVID WILDER
JUDY WILDER

Girl Scout Camp

Sharlene Moffatt of Shelburne Falls will be the new director of Camp Stonehenge in Leyden, the Western Massachusetts Girl Scout Council day camp serving girls in Franklin County.

Ms. Moffatt chairs the Shelburne Falls area Girl Scout Association and served as the Camp Stonehenge nurse and nursery unit leader last summer. She is the town and school nurse in Rowe.

The camp will offer a two-week session, July 28 to Aug. 8, Monday through Friday each week.

Activities will include swimming, camping skills, nature study, cook-outs, an optional overnight and optional pony or horse rides each week.

Girls need not be Girl Scout members to attend, but must be entering grades 1 through 9 in Sept.

The camp day runs from 9:30 am to 4 pm and bus transportation is provided from most Franklin County communities.

Further information is available from the Girl Scout office on Haydenville Rd. in Leeds.

Church Invites Help with Painting, Repairs

The Wendell Church is planning a wish-list of renovation-restoration projects for the spring. Thanks to some generous contributions a building maintenance fund has been started. The restorations needed are window repairs, some are missing, some are broken, many are loose; repainting, the job was begun and we still have paint; removal of the front step and repairing or replacing the sill if necessary.

The church building sits on the Common and should be a concern of the whole community. Whether you use it or just drive by, its physical appearance affects almost every member of this town. Its condition also reflects on the town when visitors drive through the Center.

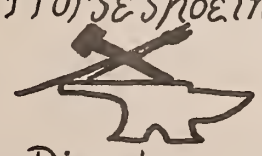
The church was established at a time when towns were required to supply and support a Congregational Church through tax money. Later the maintenance of the building fell upon the congregation. When the building closed its doors in 1972 the trustees and the Ladies Aid Society continued to do minimal maintenance. Without some serious repairs now, the building will no longer grace our common with its old New England charm. It is hard to believe that anyone in Wendell would want to see that historic building crumble.

Anyone wishing to contribute money, time or skilled labor to the Wendell Church Building Project call Jackie Ricketts 544-3494.

Thanks.

See you in church, Sundays 6:30.

Horseshoeing



Tony Diemand 544-3806

Swift River School Notes

Artist-In-Residence

During January and February, Swift River School had visual artist Susan Boss as its artist-in-residence. Funded in part by the Cultural Collaborative and in part by grants from the New Salem Arts Lottery Council, the Wendell Arts Lottery Council, the Business Fund for the Arts (Greenfield) and the school budget. Susan did a number of wonderful projects with our students, including a magnificent three-dimensional mural of the universe that is now located in the school's library opposite the skylight. The following article is one of many warm expressions of appreciation by our children for Susan's residency:

"Susan Boss is a good and nice artist. She showed us a costume and some slides. In the slides, it showed us her workshop. The costume which she made was a dragon fly. I liked it the best."

"I would like to be an artist when I am older. I am one at home now. I will draw, paint, make sculptures out of scraps, and make costumes. I think I will be one when I grow up because artists do a lot of fun and funny things. They make pretty paintings and pictures. Susan Boss is quite an artist!"

Mandy Bean, 2nd Grade

Saturday A.M. Fun

We've all been having some fun at the Wendell Town Hall On Sat. March 8 "What Was That?" was performed twice by five teddy bears and Mez Davis. The children sang songs and created silhouette stick puppets which quickly came to life!

On Sat. March 22 "Snuggle Bunny" was performed by the talented children of Wendell and the surrounding towns. We had a great time making bunny ears and bunny tails as we sang "Here Comes Peter Cotton Tail."

On April 5 we will have done "Shapes, Colors, and Safety." I am very pleased with the turnout for "Day Dream Delight" so far and want to thank the Wendell Arts Lottery Council for making this possible and all the children and parents who so creatively participate. We also appreciate the use of the Town Hall.

IT'S FREE! JOIN THE FUN!

The Wendell Arts Lottery Council will sponsor Saturday Morning Fun for Young Children at the Wendell Town Hall from 10 am - 11:45 am with short plays and puppet shows, a sing-a-long, and an arts and crafts project each time.

April 19	"The 3 Little Kittens" and a puppet making workshop
May 3	A Surprise - To be announced and we'll complete puppets
May 17	"A Tea Party" - Please bring your puppets.

* Any contributions of paint, glue, paper, etc. are welcome. Remember: Bring your imaginations.

Please call - Mez Davis for further infomation 544-6252.

School Building Group Meets with Architect

School Building Committee

On March 27, the Swift River Building Committee, which had decided on the architectural firm of Design Partnership of Cambridge, met with Wilson Rains, AIA a partner in the firm.

There was much discussion of alternatives to the present arrangement of rooms in the structure, and what was really needed to make this a comfortable and viable school for the education of our children. Since the school was built some 10 years ago, educational requirements have changed-Special Education (Chap. 766) for one - and it has caused a space problem. There are other reasons, such as the walls that have been installed to help cut down on the noise.

Meeting the educational requirements and combatting the noise problem has caused a space crunch. Storage space is non-existent, with room supplies piled and stacked wherever there's a space. On Thursday night, we reviewed the contract with Design Partenship for the Schematic Design Phase. This is covered by the money already voted at town meetings. Mr. Lubinsky is to review it with Town Counsel of both towns, Wendell and New Salem.

It was discussed how to best present it to town meeting without interruption of the meeting. It was decided to have an exhibit at each town's annual meeting - Wendell - May 8 and New Salem - May 12. Mr. Rains will have prepared something by then and we hope to show just how much has been accomplished. A meeting with the teachers of Swift River School has been scheduled for April 9, at 2p.m. for their input.

Other Building Committee meetings tentatively scheduled as follows; all at 7:30 p.m. at Swift River School: April 3, April 17, April 24, and May 1. The meetings are open to the public and we welcome anyone. Perhaps you have some input

Gladys Powling

Some Alternatives to Solve Swift Overcrowding

1. Move the kindergarden into another space. Possibilities include - the Pre-School. The Pre-School and kindergarden could share the space, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon.

-a conversion of the present fire station after it is moved to the proposed new building.

2. The Town of Orange has apparently indicated an interest in a regional elementary school for New Salem, Wendell, and Orange.

3. Equivalent contributions to parents who wish to send their children to private schools, but can not afford it. Costs to Wendell for each child at Swift River are about $1200/year; another $1200 is paid by the state; an addition would make these figures much larger. A great deal of money could be saved by providing about $1000 in aid to students to go to private schools, in classes that have excessive enrollment. This program would only pay for as many students as were beyond capacity while with an addition one pays for the greatest capacity even when actual enrollment is much less.

4. A 1 million dollar addition.

5. A 500,000 dollar addition.

6. ?

Harlan Gilbert

Draft of Warrant

(This is an early draft of the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting)

TOWN WARRANT
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Franklin, ss.

To the constable of the Town of Wendell in the County of Franklin.

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Town on Monday, May 5, 1986 at 10:00 o'clock in the A.M., then and there to act on the following articles:

Polls open 10:00 A.M. and shall close at 8:00 P.M.

Article 1: To choose all on one ballot One Planning Board Member for five years, One Planning Board Member for four years, One Selectman, One Assessor, Two School Committee Members, Two Library Trustees, One Board of Health Member, One Cemetery Commissioner, One Road Commissioner and One Constable for three years. One Treasurer, One Moderator, One Tree Warden for one year, or take any action thereon.

Question #1 Do you approve of excluding from the levy limits under Proposition 2½ up to $220,000.00 of New Debt necessary for the design and construction of a combined Highway maintenance Facility/ Fire Station or take any action thereon.

Yes___ No___

The business meeting for action on articles 2 thru 30 shall be held on Thursday May 8, 1986 at 7:00 P.M.

Article 2: To hear the report of Town Officials, or take any action thereon.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning July 1, 1986 in accordance with the provisions of Mass. General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes therefore, payable within one year and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Mass. General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, or take any action thereon.

Article 4: To see if the town will vote to fix the Salary and Compensation of all elected and appointed officials of the Town for the financial year beginning July 1, 1986, as provided in Section 108, Chapter 41, of Mass. General Laws, as amended and to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate such sums of money as shall be deemed necessary to defray such Salaries and Expenses for that period, or take any action thereon.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate $5000.00 from the Overlay Reserve Account or take any action thereon.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to accept and expend the sum of $17,433.00 or such other sum that may be made available from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Dept. of Public Works for Fiscal 1987 Chapter 90 Type Construction, and to authorize the Selectman to enter into contracts relative thereto, and to raise and appropriate or appropriate such sums as may be needed, or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to accept and expend the sum of $1250.00, specified as "Direct State Aid to Public Libraries," from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or take any action thereon.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate $ as Principal and $ as interest to pay the Highway Dept. Loader note, or take any action thereon.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate $ as Principal and $ as Interest to pay the Highway Dept. Truck note, or take any action thereon.

Article 10: To see if the Town of Wendell will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate $4,839.00 as the Town's share of the Shared Administrative Assistant Program, to accept any other funds as may be available to support said program during fiscal year 1987, and to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a cooperative agreement as prescribed by Chapter 40, Secton 4A for the program's administration and management or take any action in relation thereto.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate $81,000.00 for the Stabilization Fund, or take any action thereon.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate $3,000.00 for Farley Road Permanent work or take any action thereon.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectomen to execute Form 1942/47 Loan Resolution for Farmer Home Administration borrowing to finance construction of a combined Highway Maintenance Facility/Fire Station, or take any action thereon.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into contracts relative to the design and construction of a combined Highway Maintenance Facility/Fire Station, and to authorize that the sum of up to $220,000.00 be borrowed for said project, or take any action thereon.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate $1000.00 as the Town's share of an Incentive Grant from Executive Office of Communites & Development for financial management improvements assistance, or take any action thereon.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Stabilization Fund up to $18,000.00 for the acquisition of land for a combined Highway Maintenance Facility/Fire Station or take any action theron.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to accept the following attached pesticide by-law as a Town by-law or take any action thereon.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a twenty year contract with Holyoke Energy Recovery Company, Inc. (H.E.R.C.O.) for the disposal of the Towns solid waste, or take any action thereon.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to accept the amendment to the "Agreement"... Respecting the formation of a regional school district (Franklin County Technical School) providing for the admission of the Town of Orange into the Franklin County Technical School District as adopted by the District Committee on January 15, 1986 or take any action thereon

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to reconsider Article 2 of the Special Town meeting held March 20, 1986 or take any action thereon.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to accept the following resolution calling for a Nuclear Weapons Testing Freeze:

Be it hereby resolved that the Town of Wendell, Massachusetts calls upon the President to immediately respond to the Soviet's unilateral halt of testing by joining them in a mutual and verifiable suspension of testing as a first step towards freezing and reversing the arms race. This body also calls upon the members of our Congressional Delegation to support legislation that would enact a moratorium on nuclear testing. To be continued as long as the Soviets do not test. Copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the President and to the Senators and Representatives comprising our Congressional Delegation.
Or take any action thereon.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to accept the following resolution declaring the Town of Wendell a Sanctuary and Refuge for Central American refugees:

It is hereby resolved that the Town of Wendell be declared a Town Sanctuary and Refuge for Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugees until such a time as they can safely return to their homelands or until they are granted federally recognized residency status, and be it further resolved that to the extent legally possible, no Town employee or department shall officially assist or voluntarily cooperate with investigations or arrest procedures relating to alleged violations of immigration law by Guatemalan or Salvadoran refugees, or by those offering them sanctuary, and be it further resolved that the Town of Wendell extend an invitation to other U.S. towns to join in the offer of sanctuary, so that the U.S. may continue in its tradition of providing a safe haven for those fleeing from oppression.
Or take any action thereon.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to accept Clause 41B of Mass. Genreral Laws Chapter 59, Section 5; Real Estate Tax Exemption for Elderly Persons, or take any action thereon.

Article 24: To transact any other legal business that may come before said meeting.

The Wendell Post is sponsoring it's 6th Annual Litter Pick-up Morning on Saturday, May 3rd from 9 to 11 a.m. We will meet in front of the Town Hall. Please bring trash bags, pick-up trucks and yourselves. Cookies and lemonade will be served on the Common following the Litter Pick-up. Hope to see you there!

Wendell Elections

Road Commissioner	3 yrs.	Donald Mackie David H. White	**write-in**
Constable	3 yrs.	Joseph P. Hartjens IV	re-election
Treasurer	1 yr.		
Modrator	1 yr.	Kathy Ann Becker	re-election
Tree Warden	1 yr.	Daniel E. Baciqulupo	re-election
Planning Board	4 yrs.	Jerome Barilla Douglas B. Tanner	
Selectman	3 yrs.	James P. Slavas	re-election
Assessor	3 yrs.	Pliny A. Stebbins	re-election
School Committee	3 yrs. 3 yrs,	Christine Heard Joseph Diemand	re-election re-election
Library Trustee	3 yrs. 3 yrs.	Judith Pratt Mary Ellen Ziemba Davis	re-election
Board of Health	3 yrs.	Virginia E. Schimmel Joseph A. Diemand	re-election
Planning Board	5 yrs.	Thomas E. Wetherby	re-election
Cemetery Commissioner	3 yrs.	Daniel Baciqulupo	re-election

Road Commissioner

Mr. Mackey declined to make a statement. He says he has a lot of experience that is related, and a lot of time, but he couldn't elaborate on the new commissioner's job and the problems they face until he does the job.

David H. White is running for Road Commissioner as a write-in or sticker candidate.

Town Moderator Up For Reelection

I am Kathy Becker of Lockes Hill Road, registered nurse and seven year active member of the Wendell Fire Dept. I seek reelection for a third term as Town Moderator.

We are part of something here; we're trying to create the kind of community we want to live in. People who come to Town Meeting are the ones who shape what happens to our Town. People who stay at home simply don't get any say in these matters. Sometimes the stay-at-homes find themselves in a pickle later. When they are popped on the roads by a police car they didn't know we owned, it's too late to cry about whether buying a cruiser was a wise decision, for example.

As busy as we are to tie up yet another evening, and as much as a person's heart may pound when it comes time to raise the hand and speak out in Town Meeting, it's an act of good faith. We can do this; really we have to.

Developing meeting skills is an honest to goodness challenge for me. Doing things that are just a little scary lets me know I'm alive. But I want to be alive in a nice place, so I come to town meeting and work on it with my neighbors and friends.

Please consider voting for me for Town Moderator. If you don't, please come to Town Meeting (hopefully on time), anyway. Thankyou.

Kathy Becker

Candidate Slavas Remarks on Frenzied Pace of Government

I have always entertained the suspicion that people who choose to be selectmen must need have more than a touch of the insane about them. It is a measure of the foolishness of Wendell's current selectboard that our collective despondence and frustration were so lightened by such a simple thing as the "thank-you" expressed by those attending the most recent Special Town Meeting. Having nursed a particulary virulent case of civic duty burn-out through the fall and winter, that thank-you was enough to cause me impulsively to stand for re-election.

Talk to any selectman in the County: it's no secret that town government is changing rapidly, and that translates into extreme demands being placed on the selectboards. Even during my short five years as selectman, these increasing demands have made themselves painfully evident. Five years ago, the selectboard met every other week for perhaps 1½ - 2 hours. Currently, our meetings are scheduled weekly, and it is not uncommon to have 3 - 4 hour long meetings. Assuredly not all of that extra time can be attributed to my legendary tendency towards verbosity. Since last summer I have kept a log of the time spent on Town business. Excluding a two week vacation in July, the average time committment works out to be 16½ hours per week. This time includes the weekly meeting, meetings with other local, county and state officials, telephone conversations, the writing of reports and letters, lobbying and trying to wade through the veritable avalanche of written material burying us from all quarters.

One of my reasons for working hard for the creation of the Road Commission was to alleviate some of the pressures on the Board. I know a fair number of people in Wendell view the Road Commission, the Personnel Policy, the Police Department Fire Arms Policy, the Complaint Procedures Policy and the Town Hall Use Policy as the result of some abberrant behavior on the part of the Selectboard. The truth, however, lies more in the fact that recent court cases and state and federal laws have opened municipalities up to a wide range of liability suits and other legal actions. Although there are valid management reasons for instituting these uniform policies/procedures, for their own protection, Towns need to have written policies and procedures adopted. It has become a necessity to leave a "paper trail" documenting its actions and decisions.

This all of course takes an inordinate amount of time and effort on the part of the Selectboard. Wendell's governing is made no easier by the number of vacancies on Town boards. It is this abysmal rate of participation in Wendell town business that most dismays me. Although Wendellites have a deserved reputation for action on such special issues as the relocation of Route 2, herbicide control, transport of hazardous waste and most recent challenge to helicopter surveillance, these efforts do not themselves keep Wendell running. The great majority of decisions that will most affect the character of our community will not be made in the courts, on Beacon Hill or Washington. The quality of Wendell's future will depend on the countless unremarked and unglamorous fights, chores and decisions faced and resolved by the various Town boards, officers and commissions. Although I like to kid Ted by saying, "You know Wendell's in trouble when Ted Lewis runs unopposed for selectman," the many uncontested positions (my among them) bodes ill for the future vitality of our community. Our committment to the wider issues must also be matched by a willingness to slog through the mires of routine town governance.

One last cajole: Remember, if you don't become involved, you're leaving things up to those crazies on the Selectboard.

Jim Slavas

Thought-Power for Peace

Thought Power

Join the effort worldwide for World Peace.

Every Thursday evening at 8 pm, individuals and groups around the planet send forth thoughts of healing harmony and peace for the earth, her peoples, and her leaders.

Help make this dream become a reality. A dream begins in the minds of people. Let us use the power of our collective minds and hearts to bring to fruition this dream.

Plan Board Candidate Favors Frontage Increases

Regarding my nomination for the four year term on the Planning Board:

Two things are clear to me about planning issues in Wendell. One is that there is a variety of opinion about what should or should not be done. The other is that the legal and bureaucratic limitations and guidelines are very complex.

As a member of the planning board I would like to be accessible and sensitive to as many different concerns as possible, but be willing to take action when it is appropriate. I do have an opinion on a couple of specific issues:

On Zoning: I favor an increase in the road frontage requirement to 200 feet. I do not want to increase the acreage from the presently required two acres. I'd hate to see houses piled up any closer to one another than necessary, and increasing the road frontage needed may help keep a spacious feeling. At the same time, I like the economic diversity that we have in Wendell and I think that increasing the acreage requirement would only make it more difficult than it already is for lower income people to find homes.

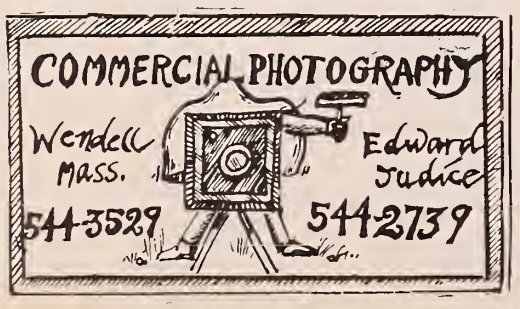
On Town Business: I applaud the efforts of the current town government, but in an increasingly complex environment, I think they need help. I strongly support the efforts to build new town buildings that will result in vastly improved town offices. I would like to see a part-time and eventually becoming full-time office staff person to occupy those offices. I think this would pay for itself many times over in many ways.

My Qualifications: I have education and experience in business and real estate. I have dealt with state and local bureaucracies on many levels as a property owner, and for the last eleven years, in my own business as a licensed carpenter/contractor.

It has been a pleasure talking to other Wendell residents about these issues. I think we have a wonderful and unique town that we can all be very proud of.

Sincerely yours,

Douglas Tanner
Locke Hill Rd.



Barilla's Statement for Planning Board

When I arrived in 1976, Wendell was as interesting and attractive as it is today. A small town with a strong sense of community ready to protect the harmony between its inhabitants and the environment; a unique combination of concerned citizens coupling those whose families have lived here for generations with those who have just settled. Not always in agreement about all things, but all seemingly in agreement that Wendell has a special beauty that should be preserved.

To that end the members of the Planning Board should represent the town in directing the pace and scope of development occurring within our boundaries. Currently serving as an appointed member of the Planning Board, I have come to realize the importance of actively soliciting townspeoples' views about how, where, and in what ways Wendell should grow, then establishing a plan that creates that future. I have participated in designing the questionnaire that will be distributed at the end of this month which addresses revised zoning, protection of natural resources, and commercial development, to name just a few areas covered. Hopefully our responses will clearly indicate our sentiments about the important issues facing us and will give the Planning Board a clear directive in guiding our growth.

For myself, I accept that growth will continue. I believe, however, that growth should be managed, primarily through enlightened and creative zoning requirements for residential and commercial development, so as to allow our children and others who will follow to enjoy the wonderful place we have come to call home. As a member of the Planning Board I have, and if elected, will continue to do all that I can to keep Wendell wonderful.

Jerry Barilla

Bake Sale

At the Wendell Town Election, May 5th there will be a bake sale for the Wendell Old Home Day Fund. Anyone wishing to bake please do so. In any event bring your money and your appetite.

Wendell Old Home Day is Being held early this year. The Date is July 12th. We are holding it early because the Outerspace Band has agreed to perform a sunset concert on the town common to wind up this years Old Home Day. Please mark this date on your calendar as its looking like this years Old Home Day is going to be special.

At the Wendell Annual Town Meeting there will be coffee, tea and baked goods for sale to benefit the Wendell Ladies Aid Fund.

Exploring Self Awareness

Interested in reincarnation? Dreams? Color and auras? Guardian angels? Laws of the universe? Nature and the fairy kingdom? Meditation? Use of affirmations?

Call me, Clare Green, 544-7421, to set a time to discuss these and other questions.

Reasonable fee or exchange.

The Cumbies Are Coming!

The Cumbies are coming!
The Cumbies are coming!!

If Paul Revere was to mount his Bronco or Blazer and drive down the back roads of Wendell, what would his alert sound like today? Would he point to the center of town and warn us to beware of traffic lights, discount gas stations, all night stores, automatic banking, Fotomats and Herb hiding behind the golden arches? Sound far fetched? Our population increased 71% from 1970 to 1980 and will probably increase at a similar rate this decade. What will Wendell look like in the year 2000? That far off time is but 14 years away. If we continue to grow at the current rate we will have gone from 400 residents to 2000 residents in just 30 years. What problems will we face? We've already outgrown our 10 year old school. What's next? The questions and concerns are alarming enough for Paul to start the engine and get ready to ride. Yet once alerted what should we do?

It's impossible for us to know for certain how fast where and in what ways Wendell will change in the future. But most certainly Wendell will grow. And it is possible for us to establish zoning regulations which will help create the town we desire. An important first step is to gather all our ideas about the aspects of growth and development we prefer or disfavor. Consequently, the Wendell Planning Board in conjunction with the Conservation Commission has designed a questionnaire that will be mailed to townspeople at the end of April. We hope that each of you will take the few minutes necessary to state your valueable and much needed opinions about Wendell's future. The alarm has sounded, it's time for us to act.

(By the way, cumbies are stores that emerge overnight at the crossroads of fast growing towns. They can be identified by the white C on the medium blue background. Sometimes they're called by other names, like Grandmy's Store but they're basically all the same.

Jerry Barilla

Joe Diemand SeeRs Health Board Seat

To the Taxpayers, Voters and Residents of Wendell:

If you are happy with the way things are presently being done, then there should be no question as to who to vote for, but if you're not these are facts that I would like to bring to your attention.....

To begin with, I do not need another responsibility. My time is very valuable. Besides working sixty plus hours a week, I am also involved on the Swift River School Committee and am a Board member of the Automotive Recyclers of Massachusetts. The only reason that I have considered donating time to the Wendell Board of Health is that I strongly feel that there has been a deterioration in policy from the original formation of this committee.

My feelings are "If you're going to do it, do it right the first time." It is rather stupid and a waste of money to "Mickey Mouse" a situation that will have to be re-done at a later date. A dwelling is probably the most expensive investment the majority of people make. I believe the days of the teepee and yurt are a thing of the past. Hopefully, any further housing constructed in town will be permanent for generations to come.

As to other issues pertaining to the Board of Health, I believe a firm stand should be taken, such as the State Codes recommend. Fortunately, the Board of Health is comprised of three members so that any matters coming before said Board are dealt within a realistic, yet compassionate manner.

To those of you who do not know me.... I am the oldest of the "Diemand Dozen." I was educated in the Wendell Center School, attended New Salem Academy and joined the Navy at seventeen, and started Mormon Hollow Auto Parts in 1964 as a hobby. In 1971, I purchased the School Bus route from Myron Gibbs and bussed children until 1979. In 1980, we changed our buying habits to late model salvage and have been upgrading the "junk yard" image ever since. We presently employ three dismantlers, one counter man and a re-builder, a part time secretary plus my wife, Carol, and myself.

Carol and I have three teenagers educated in the three school systems.

We attend both state and national conventions and seminars dealing with our business. This has been very helpful in dealing with the banking industry, not only in securing loans but in getting better rates, teaching us how to market our product and to feel good that we are business people providing a service and quality product to the public on a New England--not just "junkmen" ripping off the next sucker that comes through the door.

I'll be more than happy to discuss any problems or questions that you may have. This is not a job that one individual can do. I have in the past and I will in the future ask for help whenever, however and wherever I feel it will benefit not just me but OUR town. So the choice is yours. Do you want business as usual or are you one of the people that feel a change is needed?

Joseph A. Diemand

Nurse Makes Bid to Stay on Health Board

So that you know who your candidates are, let me introduce myself. My name is Ginny Schimmel and I am a candidate for the Board of Health. I came to Wendell from Pennyslvania about four years ago; bought a home in Wendell; and work for the Dept. of Public Health in The Handicapped Children's Program.

As a nurse, I have an appreciation of those measures directed toward the health and wellbeing of individuals.

I have been on the Wendell Board of Health during this past year, during which time I learned a lot. I am interested in continuing to serve you as a member of the Board of Health.

Ginny Schimmel

Judy Pratt Running for Library Post

My year as library trustee has been enjoyable, but I feel as though I've only just begun to learn some of what there is to know and now my term is up. I would appreciate your vote for me for a three year term. I've found that my continuing interest in literature and love of books has held me in good stead in this position. I am firmly committed to the idea of a free public library as an irreplaceable resource in small towns.

Judy Pratt

Library Candidate

I have always had a great passion for books, especially children's books. So, having two preschoolers has made the Wendell Free Library one of our favorite places to go.

I am running for library trustee because I love our small library and our small town. I feel I have the time and the energy to become more closely involved with the library, and would like to do so working as a trustee. It is also my hope to encourage more children and adults to take advantage of the opportunities, such as the ordering of books through the bookmobile, that are available through the library.

Please vote for me for library trustee.

Thanks, sincerely,
Mary Ellen Ziemba Davis
better known as "Mez"

Master Plan is One of Wetherby's Goals

My name is Tom Wetherby and I have been on the Planning Board for six years. I was appointed to fill out a one year vacancy in 1980 and then elected to a five year term in 1981.

As an incumbent seeking my second term I am impressed by the changes Wendell has gone through in the last five years. We enacted our first protection by-law in 1981. Since that time I have seen the need to expand and change the laws that I helped draft. The town is growing and changing at a pace that, if unchecked, will drastically alter our rural character by the year 2000.

I have given much thought as to what direction the Planning Board should try to direct the development that is upon us. I feel that we still have many options open to us regarding how the town should develop. I would like to see as much as possible that all citizens be involved in the decision making process.

One of my goals and the primary goal of the Planning Board is the creation of a Master Plan. A Master Plan can be a guide to help determine what happens in Wendell in the next 5 to 15 years. A Master Plan can include an official map of the town. It can include zoning the town into areas of little or no development, leaving other areas to be developed more densely. A Master Plan should include a means of protecting wetlands, ground water, wildlife habitat, and any natural resources which the town would like preserved.

As a beginning step to the creation of a Master Plan, the Planning Board is creating a questionare dealing with some general topics concerning future development. I hope people will respond with some positive input to help our planning process.

I would ask anyone who is interested in assisting in the development of a Master Plan or any part of a Master Plan to please feel free to present his or her ideas to us for consideration.

Tom Wetherby

Dr. Ludwick R. Benedetti
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Athol, Mass. 249-8931

Visit to the Florida Keys is 'Like a French Movie'

We talked about it for a long time. Another winter in our "survival center" was almost too much to bear. Several friends had dropped The Keys in our imagination and as Fall came to a close, we thought more and more aobout basking in the sun, swimming and surviving on papayas, mangos, pineapples, bananas and the likes of the tropics. I pictured long white sandy beaches, crystal-blue waters and total naked privacy.

So we did it. We figured a time to go. Made lots of arrangements and even had the car tuned up. Packing was quite an amazing feat as we were ready for anything: tent, kitchen, clown props, wind chimes, way too many clothes! All of a sudden the car, trunk and roof rack were packed full. Oh well - we haven't conquered this material plane yet.

When we finally got to the Keys (nine days after we left home) I did not see sandy white beaches, fruit dripping off of trees, but lots of people, motels, coral beaches and fruit in grocery stores that cost more than here. We found our connection for a place to stay. Once again my mind's picture of a nice grassy spot under a palm tree was disappointed by warnings of scorpions, coral snakes, poison wood trees and a very lumpy, hard tent site. But, being the great adaptors that we are, we settled in, set up camp and headed straight for Bahai Honda state park in the morning. Only 50¢ for the day (watch out for sand spurs, man-o-war jelly fish), but I was now as close to paradise as I could get - horizontal in the sun. Johnathan Marks and Kenny Michaels soon became family away from home. And Jim Casino, and JoAnna and Ariel and Patti Waters and Perriwinkle and Dale and Brian from Warwick. There we were meeting new family and spinning and weaving through each day and night "doing the Keys." Craft shows, Waffles on Monday at Bob's longhaired ranch, women's meetings, avacados, a few outrageous papayas, dancing under the palms at Mangrove Mamas to the "Survivors," biking, canoeing, walking the beach for shells and watching the sun go down at Mallory Square in Key West occupied lots of our time. Eating out now and then and lots of love (and a new puppy) are all fond memories.

Josh seemed to need to eat a lot and one day on the beach Patti said to me - " So, is Josh OK? I'm worried about him." His response to being in the Keys is like being in a French movie - FOOD, SEX, AND ON THE ROAD. She didn't understand. After being back in Wendell for several weeks (it was definitely a crash landing) Patti and I were remarking about how far removed it seemed that we had even been away. It almost was like being at the movies and then coming home. I said "Yeah - like a French movie," and we both laughed and understood the clown.

(Don't forget to ask Kenny about smoked chicken at Hercules or Key Lime pie next time you see him up North). And if you are ever in Brevard County, Fa. - sign your traffic citation!! (ask Waffles for details). Guess what - we want to do it again next year!!

Deva Skydancer

A Country Lawyer's Notes on Meetings

REPRINTED FROM THE WARWICK COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER, MAY, 1979

It happens every year. About midway through the warrant at the Annual Town Meeting, somebody asks, "Where was I when all this was planned?"

Perhaps the subject under consideration was planned in secrecy. It is more than likely, however, that the subject was considered, evaluated and scrutinized at one or more open meetings of the Select-men, Finance Committee and other Town Boards.

The Open Meeting Law is a useful tool to keep in mind. It says that notice must be open to anyone who wishes to attend, except for certain special situations. Finally, it requires that the records of any open meeting shall be available to the public.

Although the Open Meeting Law does not apply to internal employees of the Town, it does apply to all elected and appointed boards and commissions. For example, the Law applies to the Board of Health but not to the Police Department.

The Open Meeting Law does not prohibit a chance meeting or social meeting. In a small town such as ours, chance meetings between committee members happen frequently. It is all right to discuss Town business informally, provided that the members do not reach a formal agreement. If the members of a Board talk on the street or at a party, they can exchange ideas but they cannot vote to carry out an action. The vote must be taken at a posted open meeting.

The law recognizes that it might be unfair to require an open meeting in certain situations. For example, if the Town is seeking to purchase real estate, the Select-men can close their meeting to decide upon a negotiating position withour letting the other side know what that position is. There are other strictly-defined exceptions in the Open Meeting Law.

Meetings can be closed to consider complaints about a public offocial, but the official who is the subject of the meeting must be notified beforehand. That official has the right to ask for an open meeting, or to ask that he or she may speak at a closed meeting.

The privilege to speak at a meeting, however, is generally not granted by the OPen Meeting Law to all members of the public. Anyone has the right to attend an open meeting, but only people permitted by the Chairman have the right to speak.

If you missed a meeting, you may still find out what happened by asking to see the minutes. Once again, the times when minutes of a closed meeting may be withheld are strictly defined by law. In most cases, minutes of meetings are public records. Documents prepared or received by a Board are also public records unless they are internal memos personal notes or other protected communications.

Town Meetings are, of course, the most open of all meetings. In addition to the right to speak, registered voters also have the right to ask that a subject appear on the warrant.

Ten or more registered voters may re-request the insetion of an article at an Annual Town Meeting. Ten percent of the total munber of registered voters may ask for an article at a Special Town Meeting. Twenty percent of the registered voters can call upon the Selectmen to convene a Special Town Meeting even if none has been scheduled.

Town Meeting Articles cannot, however, be introduced from the floor. They must be given to the Selectmen in writing in time for them to appear on the warrant. Motions to Amend can be made at the Town Meeting, but these motions cannot change the meaning of an article. Money amounts can be reduced, but not increased, from the floor.

I will be happy to send a copy of the Open Meeting Law, or any other law, to anyone who asks for it. Please write me at Warwick Star Route, Orange, MA 01364 (Note: Les Black is Town Counsel for the Town of Warwick).

Les Black

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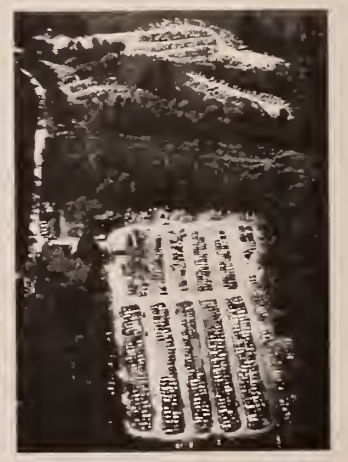

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Wendell's Oldest Families...

The Farmers Reminisce

Gilbert E. Farmer and his wife Frances live on Locks Village Road here in Wendell. Gilbert's early ancestors came from upstate New York near Fort Ticonderoga, leaving when it was under siege. "When it got too hot, they left," Frances says, helping put together her husband's lineage.

Gilbert's grandfather, Orange Farmer, came to Wendell in a horse and buggy. He had worked previously in a brickyard in New York. In Wendell he did logging, and blasting for the town highway department... That was about 1918-1919.

Gilbert's father--Leon--was Orange's son; his mother, Bessie Taylor. Edith Taylor--Jessie Wetherby's mother-in-law and Bessie were cousins. The relationships extend everywhere in Wendell. Gilbert is related to the Watsons, Maynards Davenports, Perkins, and is the cousin of Glenn Ellis, Jack and Don's father.

Leon Farmer worked for the Farley Paper Mill which made cardboard. This mill burned down about 1922. But the brothers all eventually left Wendell--Ed left for New York in 1923; Leon (separating from his wife Bessie) in 1925 also went to New York; and Clark went in 1938. When Leon and Bessie were still together, they lived on the Wendell side of Farley.

Orange and Mary Farmer lived in the big house across from the country store. Gilbert lived there with his Grandparents for a time when his father moved back to New York. (Part of the Farmer family had stayed in New York when others had migrated to Wendell, Farley and Leverett.) When he was living with his Grandparents, Gilbert went to school at the little center school, now a "pre-school". There were eight grades in one room. The teacher, Gilbert recalls, was Emma Grew. She lived in the house on Wendell Depot Road now occupied by the Sogards. Before that, when he lived at the south end of town in the house that became the Parsonage at Camp Anerson, he went to another one-room schoolhouse on West Road, "near where Emma Cappellusso lives. It just fell down, I guess." Margaret Lawler taught there for the thirteen children attending.

Contrary to what one might believe, Gilbert Farmer thinks this system (eight grades together in one room) helped rather than hindered learning. "As you were working on something in your grade, you could hear all the others. When you got to that grade, you'd heard it before...remember it. You'd talk about things. They'd explain. Everybody helped everybody.

Gilbert has a great interest in the old schools in Wendell besides the center school and the one on West Road. Before his time, there were many little one-room schoolhouses. There was one down from Hetty Green's place (beside the community church), one down on New Salem Road, not far from Jay Blackbird's. Someone had a carriage and horses and would take the kids to school. "But most of those schools were gone when I started," Gilbert says. "And I remember when Lucille Lewis taught at a schoolhouse on Farley Road, across from where Bassetts lived. That one burned down."

Frances Farmer pulls out her scrapbook of family and historic memorabilia and points out a newspaper photograph of a small bandstand gazebo on the town common. It was built in the late 1800's, but was torn down in the 1920's sometime when it became dangerous. "I remember it," Gilbert says.

Gilbert lived in several houses all over Wendell. At one time his family lived in a big house right about where the town dump is now. "When we lived there," Gilbert recalls, "we had to walk all the way up to the school in the center. That was a pretty long walk!" His memories of those days, "We always had to work!"

As a young man, Gilbert went to stay a while with his father and relatives in upstate New York. There he met Frances Mulholland. They were married in 1936 and returned to Wendell. They bought two little camps on Cooleyville Road, added a 12 x 12 kitchen and lived there a number of years in what they remember as being "a quiet little town". Gilbert worked with Glenn Ellis at the sawmill and driving a truck; also, at times, for the highway department.

Then the Severence Trucking Company boss called Ellis looking for a worker. "I don't want no Cowboy to drive my truck," he warned. Ellis sent Gilbert Farmer. For fifteen years the Farmers lived in Wendell Depot, on a knoll of land owned by Myron Gibbs. Eventually Gilbert started his twenty-five years with Erving Paper Mills working in their shipping department. Frances has fond memories of their time in the Depot. But, she says, "the water wasn't fit ot drink."

They moved up to the land they now own and live on in a small blue trailer on Lockes Village Road. Frances feels she has never been made welcome by her husband's relatives, and the family seems isolated within the town that Gilbert has lived all his life. "People have changed," they both say. "The town is changing." Gilbert comments, "years back people tried to help each other. If there was a problem, people would be there. People don't stick together now. It's hurrah for me and to hell with everybody else." He looked momentarily out the window. "I just go on my easy-going way. My father's people were the same way. They wouldn't fight, but they wouldn't run away either."

The Farmers have been on this spot twenty-two years now on land once farmed by the Leach family. There is an old cellar hole out back, a reminder of a time about which Gilbert seems so nostalgic. They still use the original stone-walled well. Gilbert and Frances haven't been involved in town politics except to vote, but he worked on the committee to buy a new firetruck with Myron Gibbs ten years ago.

The Farmers have a daughter who is in business for herself in Florence, Mass., and a son Ed who started an auto body and repair shop last June on their property in Wendell.

Susan Dunlany

Disaster Hit Sawmill

with a Vengeance

In a little settlement about three and a half miles west of Wendell center, Mr. Lewis Clark and Mr. Joel Marble of New Salem erected a portable saw mill which employed about twenty five people.

The power for the mill was derived from a twenty five horsepower engine, and a boiler, located a short distance form a shanty which was used a boarding house, and occupied by fourteen people, including a resident cook, There were two other cabins nearby occupied by other sawmill employees.

At about six A.M., on Dec. 8th, a fire started under the boiler, and a short while later an explosion took place. The people in the boarding house were just preparing for the duties of the day when the boiler was blown through the building and struck on the opposite side, which demolished the house and set the building on fire.

The proprietors, Mr. Clark and Mr. Marble were killed instantly, each leaving a wife and three children respectively. Other victims of the disaster were Oscar, George, and Willie Brown, sons of Hosea Brown of New Salem and Mrs. Charles Felton of Wendell.

Charles Wyman suffered a broken leg; Harry Alden was badly burned; Charles Reynolds was slightly injured and Charles Felton whose wife was killed outright, suffered broken bones and other injuries. The Felton's son, aged fourteen, escaped from the building uninjured, but was left with badly frozen feet from bare feet in the extreme cold.

The Felton boy proved to be a hero, as he quickly harnessed a horse and drove to the village for help.

The engineer Mr. Johnson and his family occupied a cabin on the premises, and narrowly escaped death when a sand bag which contained iron used for weights crashed through the roof and fell on the bed which Mrs. Johnson and her child were lying. The heavy object passed between them, demolishing the bed, but the woman and child were uninjured.

George E. Felton, formerly of Athol, with his wife and two children occupied the attic of one of the cabins; Mr. Felton was the only one out of bed, when the heater from the sawmill, a piece of iron weighing 900 pounds came crashing through the roof, tearing the bed in pieces, striking Felton and breaking his leg in two places.

The cause of the accident is uncertain, but was likely caused by a flaw in the boiler. As soon as the accident was made known, residents of the town rushed in to render assistance, and to care for the wounded. The bodies of the deceased were removed to their late homes as soon as possible.

During the day at least 500 sleighs were driven to the ruins bringing area residents to view the scene of the terrible disaster.

The year was 1800.

Marilyn A. Morin

(Compiled from several accounts; Athol Chronicle and Barre Gazette.)

Diemand's Egg Farm
617
544-3806

'Modular' House Fate in Courts

Many of us have been curious over the past months about this eyesore just south of the R.R. tracks on Farley Road. Is it a potential hazard that should be condemned?

This structure, described as a "modular home" by its owners, the St. Hillaires of Greenfield was in reality a small trailer on a steel frame attached to a precarious wooden structure consisting of a roof with 4 x 4 supports on a wooden deck.

Early last Spring it was dragged up the steep rough-cut drive to a cleared site (no foundation) on the southwest bank of Bear Mountain. The trailerframe bent and buckled causing the trailer to partially collapse before it reached its intended site. There it was abandoned, left to deteriorate further. The wooden frame roof collapsed to the ground under the weight of ice and snow early this winter.

The St. Hillaires had applied for a building permit for their "modular home" but brought in the structure before the permit was granted. When Building Inspector Harold Burnett inspected the site it was immediately obvious that the structure did not match its description in the application. He asked that modifications be or that they remove the structure immediately.

The St. Hillaires then cancelled their agreement to buy the property from land owner Donald Ellis, leaving the mess in his hands. According to Ellis, if the structure was his, it would already have been removed. The question of the structure's removal awaits pending legal action involving its owners, who have left the state.

With regards to safety, the Board of Health is investigating the hazards of the building.

Helen Boland

*Since this writing, removal of trailer has started.

Does Human Race Cause Earthquakes?

As a resident of Wendell and a viewer of some of the beauties of country life, I become as many of you are, concerned about the well-being of our planet as a whole. Like many of you I have watched how profit concious groups, companies, or indiciduals abuse the land on earth. Nuclear blasts, stripping land or just plain trashing the countryside with litter. We have all in our own ways taken steps to understand better or control these issues the best we can.

Personally, Iam concerned that the increasing number of earth quakes and volcanic eruptions that are happening all over the world are a result of man's carelessness. Recently, I have read an interesting book by Dr. Jeoffry Goodman, who is an archaeologist. In his book We are the Earthquake Generation, he compares the work of geologists and psychics to reveal the truth behind a prophesy of major earth changes between now and the year 2000. This is not just a doomsday report, but in my opinion a chance for people to realize a greater vision of our earth and ourselves.

I invite you to a lecture and discussion at my home on Thursday, May 8 from 7-9pm. We will explore the geological reasoning for many of these predictions and the predictions themselves from the view of psychics and how they interrelate. Please call me at 544-7702 (eves) if you plan to come. Donations are welcome.

Dana Nielson
Mormon Hollow Rd.
544-7702

Comet Spotters Spinoff of Neighborhood Potluck

Comet Spotters

"The color of the Spring Equinox is the beautiful red of new life, the beginnings of a new vibrancy which pulses throughout the planet at the time of the spiritual New Year."

Corrine Heline

Who would have ever imagined that a neighborly pot-luck at the Diemand Egg Farm, initiated by Annie Diemand, would turn into a trek up Craig Mountain at 3:30 a.m. to view Halley's Comet? But then again you just never can tell what adventures lurk within the woods of Wendell. This was a memorable one!

As we watched the smooth caress of the sun close its eyes upon the Egg Farm, we gathered round a crackling & sparkling bon-fire in 20 degree temperatures to welcome Springs's arrival. People from all parts of Wendell & Ashby, Ma. rolled into the farmhouse - carrying tasty contributions. A delicious feast indeed!- from homemade rootbeer to fresh fruit salads, to quiches, to assorted vegie dishes to Annie's Special Baklava. We abundantly ate and silently complimented Mother Earth's bountiful foods & chefs. Meanwhile, the bonfire still glowed for us to join it and share stories and s'mores. Mmm! Then some people danced, some rested.

And later we caravaned to the mountain top and eyed the glorious 3 million mile long comet which appears no bigger than a dot. Then to watch the sun appear, and with it the dawn of Springtime. We sang we watched, we huddled to stay warm. We had fun. Complete with a warm breakfast at Rainbow Bend. We parted our ways- while Spring lives on in nature and in our hearts.

Claire Green

The gangs all here - loving life and once again making a statement of love and peace.

Neighborhood friends from
New Salem, Wendell, Orange, etc

544-7425
MASSAGE
in your own home
Susan DunLany, Certified

Space Pup Leaves Planet

In June of 1974, the Outerspace Band moved into the old Fisher home, a sprawling twenty-room mansion at the crossroads in Wendell Center. Amidst the rubble left by the former tenant, we discovered a cat, two kittens, and two puppies, huddled in a corner. They greeted us playfully, though weakened by malnutrition. Doc Adams understood our predicament, and he treated their colds, mites, worms, and other maladies for just ten dollars.

The kittens were soon adopted by neighbors, the cat moved to the barn, and the male puppy joined a family in Millers Falls. His shy, honey-brown sister stayed on with us, having captured the hearts of our soundman, Don Pugh, and his girlfriend, Susan McCaffrey. We named her "Reno."

Her energy was boundless. Kids used to come to our door to ask if she could come out to play! With a quick flip of her head, she could catch a biscuit balanced on her nose. She became a great retriever, snatching frisbees from flight in graceful leaps, and eventually fetching Don's game birds. She had a gentle soul and a sprightly tenor howl, never menacing, just a handy "who's there?!" for a home without a doorbell. Seconds later she'd be on her back, looking apologetic, hoping for a little belly-rub.

To old age and failing health, Don and Susan have lost a family member, a companion who shared twelve of their thirteen years together. Our memory of Reno runs alongside, through our Band years in the Center, the break-up in '77, the fire in '79, the countless reunions. We had become her distant uncles in recent years, but our images of those great catches on the Common will never fade. She brought many smiles tc many faces.

Reno, you are a rainbow of memories... we hope your next trip around is just as special.

The Outerspace Band

KLONDIKE SOUND CO.
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(617) 544-7902

Safety in Schoolyard

A MATTER OF SAFETY

Recently, a number of dogs have come onto school grounds during school hours. The presence of dogs is a serious safety problem. Even the gentlest of dogs can end up snapping, biting or doing something harmful in a typical school recess situation. We urge you to keep your dogs leashed and away from school grounds.

Selectmen's Minutes

December 10, 1985

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 with full Board present. Signed weekly warrants.

Jackie Ricketts requested use of the Town Hall for a Christmas party. Permission granted.

The Board received a letter from Tighe & Bond rescheduling a meeting for 12/17/85. The Board will be meeting with Tighe & Bond associates.

The Board set deadlines for Town Office Town Reports. The deadline was set for February 19, 1986.

The Board discussed having the Administrative Assistant check incoming calls at the Town Hall.

The Board discussed purchasing a file cabinet for the Town Hall. They will shop around.

The Board discussed purchasing land for Town garage and municial buildings.

Jay Blackbird was present, and made copies for the Road Commission.

Chairman Slavas went to the Finance Committee meeting to discuss the Special Town Meeting.

The Board discussed with Jay Blackbird the process of discontinuing mature roads and continuing maintenance of other roads.

Meeting adjourned 9:00.

December 17, 1985

The meeting was called to order at 7:00, with full Board present.

Signed weekly warrants.

The Board purchased a second-hand 5-drawer file cabinet.

Nancy Cole requested use of the Town Hall by proxy for Jonathon Dorr and Kumba to have a potluck community gathering to bring in the New Year. Permission granted.

The Town hall kitchen was repaired Dec. 17th. All new PVC piping was installed to replace the copper tubing that had burst Sunday, Dec. 8th.

The Board received an increase in the Town landfill prices. Up from 18.00 per ton to 26.50 per ton. Granby landfill '86 price increase.

Bill Allen from Tighe and Bond was present to discuss with the Board the Arch Street Bridge cost overruns. He informed the Board the project is 75-80% finished. He also informed the Board the reason for the cost overrun is because the preliminary estimate was given before the detailed final design was completed, unanticipated work such as dispersing water flow on westside, rip ramp was underestimated.

Board discussed public hearings about Swift River School additions with the School Building Committee.

The Board discussed progress on the Montague Road Project.

The next Selectboard meeting will be January 7, 1986.

Meeting adjourned 9:30.

January 7, 1986

Meeting was called to order at 7:00, with full Board present.

Also present: Jesse Wetherby.

Signed weekly warrants.

The Board discussed several methods for better communication with the Town Hall custodian when use of the Town Hall is requested.

The Board decided to call the custodian as the Town Hall is reserved.

Del and harry Williston were present. Del informed the Board that she does not want reappointment in July unless the Board can come up with a better system for keys and money when the Town Hall is reserved.

The Board decided Del will always collect the money and an application signed by the selectmen must be presented to Del before the keys will be released.

The Selectboard Clerk will be at the Town Hall Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. beginning January 8, 1986.

Mrs. Mathews complained about the Wynkoops dog. A Selectman will call Mrs. Wynkoop. The Clerk will send a letter requesting her presence at a Board meeting.

The Board filled out fiscal year 86-87 budget request forms.

Meeting adjourned 9:00.

January 14, 1986

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with full board present.

Also present: Jay Blackbird, Tom Wetherby, Harry Williston.

Signed weekly warrants.

Anne Zak reserved the Town Hall 1/28, 2/22, 3/22, 4/26, 5/24, 6/28 for the monthly coffeehouse, 2/8 for a play called The Burrow, and 2/14 for Valentine's Day Dance.

Thomas Wetherby measured the Selecmen's office and the upstairs office for carpet. He will get back to the Selecmen with the cost at a later date.

The Board discussed with the Town Accountant the possibility of hiring a person to help clear up the current financial situation, to help the elected officials and be a liaison between offices.

Selectman Idoine proposed to the Board to have an internal meeting with the elected officials of the Town within the next month. The Board agreed to this.

The Board requested monies from the Finance Committee to purchase two file cabinets. Georgina Kish, Chairman of the Finance Committee approved the request.

Jay Blackbird gave a bill from the Greenfield Recorder to the Selectmen. The Selectmen suggested he give it to the Town Accountant.

Tel: (617) 544-3067

BENNETT CONSTRUCTION
Commercial and Residential

DEAN BENNETT

Jennison Road, Box 202
Wendell, MA 01379

Chairman Slavas set an appoitment with Chief Chase.

Mrs. Wynkoop didn't show for the scheduled meeting. The Selectmen will contact her and the Clerk will send a second notice of hearing by registered, certified mail.

Chairman Slavas informed the Board that he attended the School Building Committee meeting Thurs., Jan. 9th. The next meeting will be held Jan. 16th at 12:30. Jan. 9th was the deadline for proposals to be submitted on the building and remodeling of Swift River School. The agenda for the Jan. 16th meeting is the screening of proposals and the selection of a proposal to be presented to the townspeople Jan. 23rd.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00.

January 21, 1986

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 with full Board present.

Signed weekly warrants.

Hearing with Chief Chase was rescheduled to Feb. 2, 1986. Selectmen will request written questions for hearing to be submitted by January 28, and any further questions will be accepted at the discretion of the Selectboard. At the hearing one or two follow-up questions will be permitted for each written question submitted.

Selectman Idoine made a report regarding the cost of land for Town garage/firestation and Town offices.

The School Committee interviewed five semi-finalists for architect work at Swift River School. The next scheduled meeting will be held Feb. 5, for interview with finalist. The School committee may be able to make the final decision at said meeting. The three finalists of fourteen responses are: Sgt. Webster -- Burlington, Mass.; Design Partnerships -- Cambridge, Mass.; Haynes, Leineck, Smith -- Ashby, Mass.

The Board received a copy of the budget request from the Dept. of Veterans Services. 260.00 over last year's budget.

No show for dog hearing. Board voted 3-0 to have the Dog Officer start court procedures to clear up dog problem on Farley Rd.

The Board was informed of dogs being shot on Farley Rd. for the reason that they were threatening people and cars.

Chairman Slavas and Selectman Lewis have volunteered to lay plywood in both offices at the Town Hall so Tom Mangan can install carpet.

Meeting adjourned 8:00.

January 28, 1986

Ted Lewis and Jim Slavas present. Also Alan Emond, Dave Ewell, Robin Pierce.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Signed weekly warrants.

Robin Pierce inquired about a business license. The boar issued him a license.

Alan Emond, Dave Ewell inquired about land valuation.

Board accepted minutes for October 10, 15, 22, 29 and November 12, 19.

Received a list of 17 questions for hearing Sunday, February 2, by complaintants of helicopter flyover.

Wendell Arts Council requested use of the town hall for six days, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/19, 5/3, 5/17 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. for puppet shows. Permission granted to Mez Davis and Phyllis Lawrence.

Chairman Slavas granted a six month extension to Jerry Powling for removal of cordwood from Phelps lot due to wet conditions.

Update on dog complaints.

The board will request written complaints from the complaintants to Wynkoops dogs and will contact the dog officer.

Follow-up on road survey: Slavas will review the recommendations for the discontinuance of roads presented to him by Selectmen Lewis and Idoine.

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Selectmen's minutes cont'

February 4, 1986

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 with full board present.

Also present: Everett Ricketts , Jay Blackbird.

Fire Chief Ricketts informed the Board that the motor in the tanker presently does not have any power. The Fire Chief will be looking into options for either replacing it with two newer, smaller trucks or buying a new combine chaisse. Both options are long-term investments.

The Board discussed with Jay Blackbird, Road Commission Chair, the possibility of purchasing a prefabbed metal bldg. for the Town Carage. They discussed the costs of metal vs. wood, maintenance of bldg. and size.

Jay Blackbird discussed with the Board the proposed 1986/87 Road Commission budget. They also discussed the discontinuance of roads and pavement of roads. Chairman Blackbird suggested having a special meeting to discuss road discontinuance in detail.

The Board received a citizens complaint of harrassment by a Wendell Police Officer. The Board will follow the grievance procedure.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant will be close closed March 25, 1986.

The Board received the second report of the Mass. Special Legislative Commission on Low-Level Radioactive Waste.

Admin. Asst. Report: Local Aid Hearing at Northampton Court House Feb. 6th. She also informed the Board of monies available from the state for a salt shed.

Meeting adjourned 9:45.

February 11, 1986

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 with full Board present.

Also present: Charlie Winn of Kimball-Cook Insurance.

Signed weekly warrants.

Road Commission informed the Board of repairs needed for the grader.

Board received a complaint against the Police Chief.

The Board received a check in the amount of 500.00 for the semi-annual Lottery payment.

The Dept. of Attorney General requested names and addresses of all Class I, II, III licenses.

Insurance for fiscal 1987 is up 5½% from last year. Fiscal '87: $20,206.00.

Report of Local Aid Hearing of Feb. 5th: Local Aid is up $13,000 over last year's aid. Last year's aid was in the amount of: $200,123.00

This year's additional aid: $ 13,252.00

This year's net: $213,375.00

Meeting adjourned 9:00.

February 18, 1986

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 with full Board present.

Signed weekly warrants.

Selectbooard issued Alan Emond a general license.

The Selectboard had an inquiry about Farmers Garage. The Board will request Chief Chase to ask Ed Farmer to remove all cars from side of road.

Selectmen voted unanimously to raise Class I, II and III Junk Dealers' Licenses. Chair Slavas made the motion, Selectman Lewis seconded. New costs:

Class III, limited up to 12 cars	$ 50.00
Class III, limited up to 50 cars	75.00
Class III, over 50 cars	100.00
Class I and II	100.00

Effective July 1, 1986.

Chairman Slavas made a motion to raise General Licensing to $10.00. Slectman Lewis seconded.

Chairman Slavas made a motion to raise liquor licensing to $250.00. Selectman Lewis seconded.

Board scheduled a meeting with Ed Farmer for March 4th, at 7:45. Clerk will send a letter to Mr. Farmer.

The Board discussed scheduling a meeting with Joe Diemand.

Board scheduled a meeting with Robin Pierce for March 11th at 7:45. Clerk will send letter.

Deb Radway requested to meet with the Selectboard as well as the Towns Money-Managers and Revenue Departments to discuss hiring a shared secretary. The meeting was set for March 13th. Clerk will send a memo to those departments.

School Building Committee scheduled a meeting for February 19th at Swift River School.

The Board scheduled a special Town Meeting for March 20th, 7:00 p.m. to vote on the discontinuance of roads. Articles for the March 20th Town Meeting will be accepted until Feb. 28th.

Meeting adjourned 9:45.

March 4, 1986

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 with full Board present.

Also present: Harlen Gilbert, Joe Hartjens, Ed Farmer, Fire Chief Ricketts, Joy Brenneman, Florie Blackbird.

Finance Committee member Harlen Gilbert discussed with the Board Fiscal 86/7 budget.

Town Treasurer, Florie Blackbird, submitted her resignation, and picked up weekly warrant.

Ed Farmer discussed with the Board his plans for his new repair shop garage.

Joy Brenneman requested use of the Town Hall for April 5th. Permission granted.

The Board accepted the minutes for 12/10, 12/17 and 1/7.

Chairman Slavas met with the Road Commission March 3rd to discuss the discontinuance of roads. He informed the Board of some of the roads recommended to be discontinued.

The Board wrote the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Joe Hartjens, Road Commission member, presented the plans for expanding the Town Garage, with the purchase of land. He also informed the Board of a new metal garage from Morton Bldg. Co.

Fire Chief Ricketts discussed with the Board the building of a combined fire station/town maintenance garage. Chief Ricketts also inqired about the town's insurance. He asked if the insurance would cover loss of eye glasses while on duty. The Board informed him it is the Town policy to reimburse a Town employee for lost or broken hearing aids, teeth, and eye glasses while in the line of duty.

The Board voted unanimously to sign authorizing the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management to exercise the power of eminent domain.

Meeting adjourned 9:30.

March 11, 1986

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 with full Board present.

Also present: Jay Blackbird, Lynn Davis, Stephen Broll, Harry Williston.

Signed weekly warrants.

Jay Blackbird informed the Board of progress on grader repairs.

The Board nominated Donald Richardson animal inspector for Wendell.

The Board discussed the Town's two acre, one hundred feet frontage bylaw.

Board received from the Dept. of Public Safety Division of Fire Prevention licenses for flamable liquids. The information taken from these licenses will be used by the fire dept. in case of a fire.

Lynn Davis informed the Board that the Women's Issues Network of Franklin County is concerned about the future of human services in Franklin County. She urged the Board to support the Services Coordinator position at the meeting to be held March 13th in Greenfield.

Harry Williston discussed the budget and Revenue Sharing funds with the Board.

Notice of wood cutting on Hemingway Rd. and Gage Lane and Rockwell Hill Road.

Meeting was adjourned 9:20.

March 18, 1986

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 with full Board present.

Also present: Chief Ricketts, Deb Radway, Charles Smith, Jay Blackbird, Robert Ellis.

Signed weekly warrants.

The Board discussed articles from the Special Town Meeting Warrant for March 20th.

Received a dog complaint about dogs running loose on Farley Road.

The DPW has approved a request for extra monies to complete the Arch Street Bridge project. Extra monies for workmans comp. was not approved.

Robert Ellis showed the Board a drawing of Tre. 2 L.P.A. from an artist conception of the change through Erving Center.

The Selectboard, Deb Radway, Jay Blackbird, and Everett Ricketts discussed the approx. cost of the Fire Station/Highway Garage project.

The Selectboard received a formal complaint from Leonard Strauss about dogs running loose at Swift River School. He reported a biting incident and feared there might be others. The Board will investigate.

Farmers Hom Loan: The Board needs

Farmers Home Loan: The Board needs to put on Annual Town Meeting Warrant intention to follow Farmers Home Loan rules and regulations.

Deb Radway discussed with the Board the progress with FmHA for the Fire Station/Highway Garage project.

Town Hall was reserved for Charles Smith 4/8, 4/9, 4/16.

Chairman Jim Slavas will run for re-election in May.

Dept. of Environmental Management is interested in interest or absolute acquiring ownership of land on Kentfield Road.

Meeting adjourned 10:35.

March 25, 1986

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 with full Board present.

Also present: Jonathan VonRanson, Harlen Gilbert, Robert Sholman, Janet Mankowski, Bob Perrell, Deb Radway, Kumba Dorr, Joe Hartjens, Lyba.

Janet Mankowski presented a petition to the Board requesting the reconsideration of the vote to install sodium vapor lights along the Town Common. The Board agreed to put the reconsideration request on the Annual Town Warrant.

Jonathan VonRanson presented to the Board a petition to defer all further construction on the Arch Street Bridge until a Town Meeting addresses the issues.

Kumba requested the use of the Town Hall for May 17th for a coffee house.

Executive Office of Communities and Development grant monies are still available. Deb Radway will send an application Wed. the 26th of March.

Finance Committee and the Board discussed the request for wage increases from the Highway Dept.

Finance Committee/Selectman Meeting agenda: 1) Grant application and corresponding monies connected with that; 2) Scanlon -- where to use revenue sharing monies; 3) Salary increases.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully,

Regina Howarth, Clerk